

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 304

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 27, 2002

Received and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing sympathy to the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo who were tragically affected by the eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano on January 17, 2002.

Whereas on January 17, 2002, the Nyiragongo volcano, which stands 11,380 feet high and is located 6 miles north of the city of Goma in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, began to erupt without warning;

Whereas 147 people lost their lives and 150,000 people have been displaced as a result of the recent Nyiragongo eruption;

Whereas the recent Nyiragongo eruption is the most destructive volcanic eruption to occur in Africa during the last 25 years;

Whereas the lava flow from the recent Nyiragongo eruption was a mile wide in places and destroyed the cathedral and water plant of Goma and countless villages and buildings;

Whereas dangers from fires, toxic fumes, reoccurring tremors, and natural methane gas under Lake Kivu continue to plague the Goma region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

Whereas the recent Nyiragongo eruption destroyed crops and contaminated the main water supply of Goma;

Whereas the suddenness of the recent Nyiragongo eruption resulted in the separation of many children from their parents;

Whereas the United States has provided assistance valued at \$4,400,000 for food, water, sanitation, and town planning to the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo affected by the recent Nyiragongo eruption;

Whereas the Office of the United States Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has made available additional funds for assistance to the people affected by the recent Nyiragongo eruption; and

Whereas the Governments of the United Kingdom, Germany, France, and Belgium have also offered assistance to the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That Congress expresses its deepest sym-
3 pathies and condolences to the people of the Democratic
4 Republic of the Congo who were tragically affected by the
5 eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano on January 17, 2002.

Passed the House of Representatives February 26,
2002.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

Clerk.